FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

745 Fifth Avenue New York, New York 10151 Telephone: (212) 588-0800 Facsimile: (212) 588-0500

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To:

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Examiner, Annan Q. Shang

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Group Art Unit 2623

Fax No.

571 273-8300

From:

William S. Frommer

Date:

January 3, 2008

Re:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No.: 09/937,461

Sony Ref. No.: S01P0479US00 Our Ref No.: 450101-03584

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JAN 0 3 2008 PATENT 450101-03584

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Ichiro Kubota, et al.

Notice of Allowance Dated: 10/05/2007

Serial No.

09/937,461

For

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February 1, 2002

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Barnet Shindiman

Type or print name of person signing certification

January 3, 2008

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RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, which accompanied the Notice of Allowance mailed October 5, 2007. To the extent the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance states, implies or is construed to mean that the claims are

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allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner believes the claims should be interpreted to include one or more features or limitations not recited therein, Applicants' attorney disagrees with such an interpretation. Moreover, it is Applicants' contention that there is no particular limitation in the allowed claims that is more critical than any other. The issuance of the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be construed as a surrender by Applicants of any subject matter. It is the intent of Applicants, by their attorney, to construe the allowed claims so as to cover the invention disclosed in the instant application and all equivalents to which the claimed invention is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP Attorneys for Applicants

William S. Fromme

Reg. No. 25,506 (212) 588-0800